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Considerable attention is given to the construction and serviceability of various kinds of wooden flumes, and their development from the simpler and cruder forms to the expensive but more satisfactory flumes and pipes. There is also a section devoted to the discussion of the cast iron pipes, their history in irrigation, durability and cost.

Copious illustrations and diagrams accompany the report and materially add to its value. As the extent of arid land in the United States is so vast, fully two thirds of its area, and includes some of the richest agricultural land on the globe, this information regarding the methods and growth of irrigation will be welcomed.

G. B. H.

The University Geological Survey of Kansas. Volume IV, Paleontology, Part II. By SAMUEL W. WILLISTON, Paleontologist.

This part two of the paleontology of Kansas is devoted to the description of the Carboniferous invertebrates and the Cretaceous fishes.

The Carboniferous invertebrates, from the Protozoa to Pelecypoda inclusive, have been discussed for the report by Dr. J. W. Beede. All the species have been fully described, so that the report will be a valuable manual for the study of Upper Carboniferous or Coal-measure invertebrates. Not since Meek's report on the Coal-measure faunas of eastern Nebraska, published in 1872 in the final report of the U. S. Geological Survey of Nebraska, has there appeared so comprehensive a report of the faunas of this age, and the report will be of great value to all workers in Upper Carboniferous paleontology whether in Kansas or elsewhere. The paper is illustrated by twenty-two plates. The completion of the report, including the treatment of the additional classes of invertebrates, is promised for the next part of the Paleontology of Kansas to be published by the Survey.

The literature on the Cretaceous fishes of Kansas has been widely scattered in the past, much of it having been published in Germany from collections secured from Kansas for the museums of German universities, and has been for the most part inaccessible to American students who have not had access to large libraries. In the present report the Selachians and Pycnodonts have been treated by Dr. S. W. Williston, and the Teleosts by Mr. Alban Stewart. These two papers together constitute a comprehensive report of the Kansas Cretaceous

fishes and are a valuable contribution which will be of use not only to the citizens of Kansas, but to all students of fossil fish.

S. W.

Profiles of Rivers in the United States. By HENRY GANNETT.
Water-Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 44, United States
Geological Survey.

This interesting and valuable publication embodies within a hundred pages the leading facts of about one hundred and fifty of the most important rivers and streams of the country, noting their length, drainage area, the location of water power in their courses, their peculiarities of flow, and the nature of their drainage basins.

The rivers selected are those which are the largest in size and bear most directly upon the varied interests of the country, such as the Connecticut, Hudson, Susquehanna, Ohio, Potomac, Mississippi, Missouri, Platte, Colorado, Sacramento, Columbia, and others. The figures for the tables showing height above sea level and fall per mile were collected from various sources; some were obtained from the report of the chief engineer of the United States army, some from railroad companies when their lines cross streams, and some from the Atlas sheets of the United States Geological Survey.

In the case of such rivers as the Connecticut, Susquehanna, Mississippi, and Colorado, where the surrounding country is, in part or whole, of peculiar physiographic interest, very excellent and vivid descriptions of its leading physical characteristics are given. The pamphlet is the result of much careful work, and is the first attempt to collect and compile this information in its present form.

G. B. H.

Yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1900.
Washington, 1901.

The portions of this important volume of most interest to geologists are those which relate to soil investigation and the special papers on "Mountain Roads," by James W. Abbott; "The Selection of Materials for Macadam Roads," by Logan Waller Page; "Objects and Methods of Investigating Certain Physical Properties of Soils," by Lyman J. Briggs; and "Practical Irrigation," by C. T. Johnston and J. D. Stannard.

C.